



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/783,228	02/19/2004	Andrew Julian Gartrell	042933/267047	7423

826 7590 05/20/2005

ALSTON & BIRD LLP
BANK OF AMERICA PLAZA
101 SOUTH TRYON STREET, SUITE 4000
CHARLOTTE, NC 28280-4000

EXAMINER

TRAN, TUAN A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2682

DATE MAILED: 05/20/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/783,228

Applicant(s)

GARTRELL ET AL.

Examiner

Tuan A. Tran

Art Unit

2682

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 May 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☒ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 17-32 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
 - I. Claims 1-16 drawn to a cover assembly for a wireless telecommunications signal receiving and generating assembly comprising: a first end; a second end; a pair of side edges; a flexible portion extending between the side edges and positioned between the first and second ends; and a connector configured to hold together the first and second ends, classified in class 455, subclass 575.3.
 - II. Claims 17-32 drawn to an apparatus and method of securing a belt around a wireless telecommunications signal receiving and generating assembly comprising the belt extending over front surface, back surface and a pair of opposite portions of peripheral surface, classified in class 455, subclass 557.
2. The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:
3. Inventions I and II are related as subcombinations disclosed as usable together in a single combination. The subcombinations are distinct from each other if they are shown to be separately usable. In the instant case, invention [I] has separate utility such as a first end; a second end; a pair of side edges; a flexible portion

Art Unit: 2682

extending between the side edges and positioned between the first and second ends; and a connector configured to hold together the first and second ends.

See MPEP § 806.05(d).

4. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art because of their recognized divergent subject matter, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.
5. During a telephone conversation with the assigned attorney, Mr. Gregory J. Carlin (Reg. 45,607) on May 09, 2005, a provisional election was made with traverse to prosecute the invention of 10/783,228, claims 1-16. Affirmation of this election must be made by applicant in replying to this Office action. Claims 17-32 withdrawn from further consideration by the examiner, 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a non-elected invention.
6. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.48 (b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a diligently-filed petition under 37 C.F.R. 1.48 (b) and by the fee required under 37 C.F.R. 1.17 (h).

This application is in condition for allowance except for the following formal matters:

- a. Claims 17-32 should be canceled as being non-elected claims.

b. The term "CTL 01/4600459v1" below the paragraph of the Abstract should be deleted.

Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-16 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claims 1-16, the closest prior art to the claimed subject matters is Humphreys et al. (2002/0065054). Humphreys discloses a cover for a mobile station to prevent accidental slippage or removable from the assembled mobile station, comprising: front cover having a first end and a side edge; and a back cover having a second end and a side edge, wherein the pair of side edges laterally spaced from each other and extending between the first and second ends and wherein the front cover straps the back cover, the cover extending around and is in overlying contact with the mobile station (See fig. 1). However, none of prior arts of record discloses a cover assembly for a wireless telecommunications signal receiving and generating assembly, comprising: a flexible portion extending between the side edges and positioned between the first and second ends, wherein the flexible portion allows the first and second ends to be moved with respect to each other about the flexible portion; and a connector

configured to hold together the first and second ends in an adjacent relationship so that each of the side edges defines one of a pair of side openings exposing a portion of the signal receiving and generating assembly.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Pirila et al. (2003/0068035) ; Park (6,704,586) ; Halkosaari et al. (2002/0193136) ; Hsu (2002/0085709) ; Koike (6,201,867) ; Shepherd et al. (2004/0203486) ; Pan et al. (2003/0211835); Pan (2003/0087611); Strawn et al. (2001/0049292); Irizarry (6,785,566).

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Tuan Tran** whose telephone number is **(571) 272-7858**.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Vivian Chin**, can be reached at **(571) 272-7848**.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

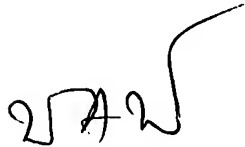
Art Unit: 2682

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314 (for Technology Center 2600 only)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.



Tuan Tran

AU 2682



VIVIAN CHIN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600

5/16/05